# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4193
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2016
Wastage of Water by Industries
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

**Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is considering to put a check on the wastage of water by industries, if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government is considering to take any steps in this regard; and
(c) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION
(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) to (c) Water being a State Subject, State Governments take necessary measures for development and management of water resources, including measures for water use efficiency.

Central Water Commission and Central Ground Water Board have prepared the "General Guidelines for Water Audit & Water Conservation" in December, 2005 as conceptual guidelines to cover broadly three main sectors of water use viz. irrigation, domestic and industrial. The aims and objectives of these guidelines are to introduce, standardize and popularize the water audit system for conservation of water in all sectors of water use and improve the water use efficiency. These guidelines were circulated among all the State Governments for facilitating formulation of their own region, project, system and service specific guidelines. Central Water Commission has subsequently also prepared "Guidelines for Improving Water Use Efficiency in Irrigation, Domestic & Industrial Sectors", in 2014.

The National Water Policy, 2012 has recognized the importance of water use efficiency and has inter-alia made the following recommendations in this regard:

i) Given the limits on enhancing the availability of utilizable water resources and increased variability in supplies due to climate change, meeting the future needs will depend more on demand management, and hence, this needs to be given priority, especially through (a) evolving an agricultural system which economizes on water use and maximizes value from water, and (b) bringing in maximum efficiency in use of water and avoiding wastages.

ii) Water quality and quantity are interlinked and need to be managed in an integrated manner, consistent with broader environmental management approaches inter-alia including the use of economic incentives and penalties to reduce pollution and wastage.

iii) In order to meet equity, efficiency and economy principles, the water charges should preferably / as a rule be determined on volumetric basis. Such charges should be reviewed periodically.

iv) Recycle and reuse of water, after treatment to specified standards, should also be incentivized through a properly planned tariff system.

v) The principle of differential pricing may be retained for the pre-emptive uses of water for drinking and sanitation; and high priority allocation for ensuring food security and supporting livelihood for the poor. Available water, after meeting the above needs, should increasingly be subjected to allocation and pricing on economic principles so that water is not wasted in unnecessary uses and could be utilized more gainfully.

vi) Industries in water short regions may be allowed to either withdraw only the make up water or should have an obligation to return treated effluent to a specified standard back to the hydrologic system. Tendencies to unnecessarily use more water within the plant to avoid treatment or to pollute ground water need to be prevented.

vii) Subsidies and incentives should be implemented to encourage recovery of industrial pollutants and recycling / reuse, which are otherwise capital intensive.

The National Water Policy, 2012 has been circulated to all States for implementation

Central Government has launched National Water Mission with the objective of 'conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development and management'. Strategies have been recommended for increasing water use efficiency across different sectors, including industrial.

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